# A STUDY OF STATUS AND PROBLEMS OF EDUCATION OF MUSLIM MINORITY WOMENAND GIRLS ( WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO NANDED DISTRICT)

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# A STUDY OF STATUS AND PROBLEMS OF EDUCATION OF MUSLIM MINORITY WOMEN AND GIRLS (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO NANDED DISTRICT)

**Introduction :-**

Islam has always given the first priority importance to the women and girl education . The prophet himself quoted that , “education is very important for Muslim men and women to perceive knowledge .”

According to Prophet Muhammad (SAW) : “Seeking knowledge is essential for the cultural improvement of the society .” In the early days it can be observed by the research that great reformer women like Hazrat Hafsa, Umm-e- kulsoom, Ayesha Bint Saad and many other women had better hold over reading and writing and of course there were literate on top of being Muslim women .

It can be seen that Right to Education Act (RTE) provides fair and equal opportunities to every child to get free and compulsory primary education . According to Nelson Mandela, “Education is the most powerful weapon, which we can use to change the world”.The present study will be done to identify and highlight the status and problems of education of Muslim minority women and girls with special reference to Nanded district of Maharashtra state . As it is well known that Muslims ,being the second largest community in India consisting almost 15.5% of the population as per 2010- 2012 census are seriously lagging behind in terms of educational development of women and girls As compared to other community minority women,girls and their male counterpart .(Pew Research Centre)

Such type of deviation gender bias and delinquent behaviour in respect of women education causing injury and can be a great threat for both individuals and Society for present as well as for future .But it is equally true although Islam as a religion give its full emphasis attainment of women's education , yet there are several social reasons as creating obstacles in the way for their educational development like large family size ,poverty, negative attitude, male domination, lack of link between madarasa education and Modem Education etc .This statement of facts warrants a casual and Critical examination and interpretation of the problem and status of education of minority Muslim women and girls and challenges faced for their integration welfare with the mainstream society comparing with that of other minority communities of society . Our honorable Prime Minister Shri Modi ji has rightly said that, “He wants that young Muslim boys and girls should have Quran in one hand and computer in the other hand . Apart from the introductory part, the present research in introduction will deal with other important concept as factor issues related to the topic they are as follows:

1) **Legal position of Muslim Minority women and their rights .**
2) **Demographic status of Muslim Minority women and girl child .**
3) **Muslim Minority women and health .**

4) **Educational status of Muslim Minority women and girl child .**
5) **Muslim women participation in household and child bearing.**
6) **Muslim women high rates of fertility.**
7) **Muslim women and low rates of contraception use.**
8) **Muslim women and marriages .**
9) **Muslim women and family life.**
10) **Muslim women in traditional patriarchial family.**
11) **Productive economy and Muslim women .**
12) **Muslim Women and Muslim culture.**
13) **Muslim women in state and politics .**
14) **And others .**

## RATIONALE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY :-

Study and Research undertaken for the doctoral work is to study the status and problems of education of Muslim minority women and girls in Nanded district. For the purpose, research will select the sample of Muslim minority women and girls because they are minority community and requires special care and enhancement for the development of educational area. The research will be mainly concentrating on the status and socio -economic profile of the Muslim minority women and girls. The study will be done by concentrating on the social status and role in the family, their health condition ,attitude of Muslim women towards their own educational empowerment and self confidence. Hence ,the study will give priority to understand the factors that have influence on the educational status, arising problems of Muslim minority women and girls and to analyse the factors that can raise awareness level of the respondent.

## RELEVANCE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY:-

The present study or research to be done is to target towards the status and problems of education of minority Muslim women and girls in Nanded district.

**First :-** There are many rural areas having much population of Muslim community living in isolated or semi isolated areas of Nanded district, where modem facilities of educational institutions are not available or partially available . So ,the main matter of concern behind the study is to know how they face situations to get better education and what status has to be enhanced for further development of their literacy level.

**Second :-** The educational status which matters in the rural areas particularly in the Muslim populated areas ,where the subject is needed to bring out governmental policies for the educational development program of muslim minority women and girls.

**Third:-**The need therefore is to share experiences and materials that will help out not only in understanding the successes and failures but also will provide knowledge and guidelines and the policies for the improvement of status and problems of Muslim minority women and girls .

**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY :-**

The following objectives are set for the present study:-

1) **To study and understand background of educational status and problems of Muslim Minority women and girls in the Nanded district.**
2) **To identify and bring out the socio-economic conditions and status of Muslim minority women and girls.**
3) **To trace the major problems regarding the School and higher education of Muslim minority women and girls.**
4) **To find out the factors responsible for more number of Muslim girls drop out from schools and colleges and to study the governmental programmes and policies for the education of minority women and girls.**
5) **To identify the literacy rate of Muslim minority women and girls in the Universe of study .**

**REVIEW OF LITERATURE** -

For the present study, preliminary review of literature is done and the earlier studies are presented here in brief .Further of the present research ,the review of literature will be taken in the second chapter .

**The Oxford Dictionary ,**defines Muslim women problem solving techniques as ,'Efforts to make life worth living for women students". Their efforts have their origin either in some statute formed by the state or in some local custom or in a collective agreement or in the women students in own initiative .

**National policy of empowerment of women (2002)** describes empowerment of women as its basic parameters. Economic empowerment includes poverty eradication and income generation and social empowerment include education health and nutrition etc. In the case of Muslim minority women ,the state of empowerment in educational field is still not clear and a study about their socio-economic conditions and about their actual status is required .

**Kallur (2001)**in his study entitled- Empowerment of women through NGOs : A case study was done in Nanded district of Maharashtra state analyses impact of household responsibilities on low status of Muslim women education .

**John A and Pande, S.V. (2012)**in their research paper, “Educational status of Muslim women in India ” ,have stressed on the role of education which simplify the social and economic progress . They want to display the reality that Muslim girls are discussed in the least educated sections of Indian societies . The authors have based their paper on secondary data like Census of India report of 2001 .

**Hossain MI (2012)**in his paper , “Muslim women of Maharashtra : An enquiry into their minority status ” have highlighted muslim women of Maharashtra are lagged behind the mainstream on all human development like educational enrollment, political participation, standing position on socio-economic etc . The author has gathered their study both primary and secondary data like Census of Government of India report 2001 and relevant published literature .

**Nasrin (2013)** in her research paper , “Education of Muslim women - A journey from past to present ” has discussed to find out alternative way of educational pattern of Muslim women since independence. The author has focused on sources data for pointing out the socio-economic factors like low access to school, poverty and discrimination faced at school which lead to low education among Muslim women .

**Islam,M.S. and Siddiqui .L. (2016)**in their paper , “Assessing the educational status of Muslim women in Maharashtra - A case study of Nanded district” has represented the educational status of Muslim women in Nanded district. He emphasized on the percentage of dropout of Muslim women from illiterate to higher education like school college and university.The authors have based their paper mainly on primary sources of data.

**Mollah Kamruzzaaman ( 2018) ,** in his paper “Status of Muslim women in India ” has tried to trace out the actual status of Muslim women in India . The author also focused on education , socio-economic, employment care ,Healthcare and political awareness status among the Muslim woman in Maharashtra . He has conducted his paper with giving some suggestions .

**Jana (2015)**conducted a study on Elementary education of Muslim women in Maharashtra,India . One of the objectives of this study was to find out government scheme to attract Muslim women in education .

**Saxena (2014)**conducted study on Muslim women education in India . one of the objectives of this study was to find out the government efforts to improve the muslim women education.

**Girjia and Bassavaraja ( 2014 )** conducted a study in his research paper on Muslim education of women and girls in India.

**Parween (2013)** conducted a study on Muslim women in India . one of the objectives of this study was to find out the change in attitude of family and state towards Muslim higher education.

**Wali (2012)**conducted a study on Muslim women education in India . He recommended following suggestions to improve Muslim women education . One of the objectives of his study was to find out government aid and reform in education examination system to attract Muslim women in education.

**Sachar Committee Report (2006) ,**according to this committee the social status of Muslim women as projected in the outside world is the result of select cases of Muslim women passionately discussed in media.As a result of such biased propaganda the civil society and the state locate Muslim women's deprivation not in terms of the objective reality of societal discrimination and faulty development Policies but in the religious community space.

**RESEARCH PROBLEM:-**

Poverty is the root cause of many social problems . Eradication of poverty plays a vital role in the overall development of an individual and community . With poverty there can be many other causes for low educational status of Muslim women and girls . So, the relevance of research and study of extension is for the problem related to low status of education of Muslim women and girls which is needed to be studied. There are many traditional vicious cycles playing a role in creating obstacle in the way of the development of Muslim women education in regards of their school education and higher education .The research will be about the gap problem about lagging behind in the educational status as compared to other fields.

**REASEARCH QUESTIONS AND HYPOTHESIS :-**

The present study will include the research on following questions which will be tried to be addressed on the basis of previous review of literature and the research will be done on it to solve the arising problems about Muslim minority women and girls education.

1) **The Muslim Minority women and girls are lagging behind in school and higher education from the mainstream.**
2) **There are many school and college dropouts among Muslim minority girls and women is much more.**
3) **There is much more lack of literacy rate among Muslim minority women and girls compared to other religions .**
4) **The situation of Muslim minority women and girls literacy rate very poor in Nanded district of Maharashtra state.**

**RESEARCH DESIGN :-**

In the context of present research study,“Exploratory Research Design” will be conducted for the research problems so as to satisfy the objectives of the study .

As it is a exploratory study the scope of study will not be restricted to certain hypothesis. Therefore the hypothesis will be extracted from the research and will be recorded in the thesis.

The present study will be explorative by in nature and will be attempted to find out about the status and problems of Muslim minority women and girls education in Nanded district of Maharashtra state .

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:-**

For the purpose of present study in Nanded, one of the educationally backward district of Maharashtra state Located in Central India “Mixed methods” will be used accordingly during the research. The research questions will be answered using both Qualitative and Quantitative data. Qualitative methodologies and quantitative techniques will be used to carry out the study . Qualitative data will be collected from instances during interaction with the respondents and by using observation, discussions, group discussions ,participation ,home visit and checklist, discussion with relatives and friends, family background etc. Quantitative data will be collected by using structured Interview schedule and Case Studies.

**RESEARCH SAMPLING :-**

In the present study of research out of 16 talukas of Nanded district 10 talukas having a good population of Muslim minority community will be taken as sample. From among this 10 talukas ,one village from each Taluka will be taken as sample in the present research study. The criteria and basis for the selection of the village will be the village having highest Muslim minority population . 10% will be selected as sample from every sample village. In all 300 respondents will be selected from 10 villages of 10 talukas keeping in mind the 10% criteria. The random sampling and stratified random sampling method will be used to cover at least 10% of respondents from each village for the purpose of this study. It is proposed to evolve or time bound plan of one year for field work to work in all the Nanded district. If possible or needed in Research Design ,the use of probability and nonprobability technique of selection of units will be adopted as per the situation.

**SOURCES OF DATA COLLECTION :-**

Keeping in mind the Explorative multidimensional Research designing nature of the present study, tools will be used for collecting Primary and secondary data by using both primary and secondary sources.

The primary data will play an important role in the present research study where the first hand data will be collected by using primary sources of Data Collection directly from the field of study from the respondents using the structured

interview schedule and observation checklist ,informal interview and discussion and case studies .

The secondary data will be collected by using secondary sources of data collection that is from the library books journal and articles . The information will also be collected from the internet websites government offices and other magazines etc.

**DATA ANALYSIS AND PROCESSING :-**

The data processing in the present study will be done by classifying data into purposeful and usable categories and coded after editing . Edited data will be calculated and analysed on a computer using the statistical package for social Sciences (SPSS ).

**UNIVERSE OF STUDY :-**

The present study will be conducted in the Nanded district of Maharashtra state . There are 16 talukas in Nanded district from which the study will cover 10 talukas and one village from each Taluka .Thus , the Nanded district becomes the Universe of study .

**BRIEF PROFILE OF NANDED DISTRICT :-**

The Nanded district is a district of Maharashtra state in Central India . The city of Nanded is the district headquarter . The mention of Nanded is found in the Leela Charitra a treatise written by Mahima Bhatta . It gives the description of the idol of Narasimha in the town.Nanded was formerly known as Nandita which confirmed by the copper plate found at vasim Nanded is one of the backward district of Marathwada region of Maharashtra state and have a predominantly agrarian economy . It comprises of 16 Talukas . Majority of population is engaged in agricultural activities and there is little industrialisation in the district . The existing industries are agricultural based . Majority of its population live in rural areas . The literacy rate of Nanded district is 48.17 % as compared to 64.8 7% of Maharashtra .

District mainly consists of plain areas with small hills and Granite boulders. The land is mainly utilised for agricultural purpose. Agricultural area is 1033 114 hectares and forest area is 91748 hectares. There are 10 small rivers with Godavari, Manjra, Maniyar, penganga being the main river.

As per 2021 census , the total population ofNanded district is about 3,61,292 with literacy rate of 75.45 %. Even though there is only mentioned in historical accounts in 4th century ,evidences of human habitation in this area has been found for the past 40 to 50 thousand years . The tenth and last living Guru of Sikh , “Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji” stayed in Nanded for 14 months and from here that he transferred the title of Guru to “Add Granth” as “Guru Granth Sahib Ji”.(***"The Sikh review "Sikh Cultural Centre).***

One of the well known poem explain about the Nanded district periphery and its cultural and historical importance is given here. One of the former University students of SRTMUN,wrote the Marathi poem “The Nandigram” in Marathi in 2003 which is popular with local people.The poem best explain the district culture and historical importance . As on the last 2011 census Nanded is divided into 16 talukas which are Mahoor , Kinwat, Himayat Nagar, Hadgaon ,ardhapur, Nanded, mudkhed, Bhokar, Umri ,dharmabad ,biloli, Naigaon, Loha ,Mukhed, degloor. Nanded district population in in 2021 is 3,596,743 (estimates as per Aadhaar uidai.gov.in December 2020 data). As per to 2011 Census of India Nanded district has a population of 3,361,292 in 2011 out of which 1,730,075 are male and 1,631,217 are female. Literate people are 2,189,425 out of 1,255,222 are male and 9,34,203 are female. People living in Nanded district depend on multiple skills total workers are are 1,493,953 out of which men are 9,25,232 to and women are 568,721. Total 416,826 cultivators are dependent on agriculture farming out of 271,253 are cultivated by men and 145,573 are women. 539,5 88 people work in agriculture land as labour men are 289,385 and 250,203 women. Nanded district sex ratio is 943 females per 1000 of males. ( ***provisional population tools office of registrar general and census Commissioner).***

Nanded district lies between 180 15' to 190 55' North latitudes and 770 to 78025' is east longitudes. Nanded is bounded on the north by Yavatmal district of the with Vidarbha region on the eastern side lies Adilabad ,Nirmal, karimabad and Kamareddy district of Telangana state and on the south lies of Karnataka state. Nanded also shares its boundaries with latur on Southwest parbhani and Hingoli district on the west and Yavatmal district to the north. The district is bounded by the Nizambad, Medak, Nirmal and Adilabad district of Telangana state to the East. Nanded has two parts old Nanded 20.62 kilometre square to the north Bank of the river Godavari and new Nanded to the south of the river. ***( Nanded census 2011).***

**TENTATIVE CHAPTER SPECIFICATION :-**

**1) Introduction and key concepts of minority education.**

**2) Review of literature.**

**3) Research methodology and profile of Nanded district.**

**4) Socio-economic profile of the Minority Muslim women and girls (based on empirical data).**

**5) Governmental policies and programmes for education of minority Muslim women and girls.**

**6) Status and problems of education of minority women and girls and case studies. (based on field study).**

**7) Findings,conclusions,social work module and suggestions.**

**Bibliography**

**Appendix A : Interview schedule**

**Appendix B : checklist and photographs**

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